

Please replace any previous claims with the following set of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A handrail (18) ~~to be attached to a tarpaulin (12) having a handlebar (22) held between two bushes (20), with the bushes each having a screw thread (26) that is inserted through the tarpaulin cloth in order to fasten them to the tarpaulin, and with which the bush can be~~is affixed to the tarpaulin frame.

2. (Original) The handrail as recited by claim 1, characterized in that the bush (20) has a fastening arm (24) on which the screw thread (26) is arranged.

3. (Currently Amended) The handrail as recited by claim 1 or 2, characterized in that one set collar (36) ~~that may be~~which is slid onto the tarpaulin frame tube (16), is provided per bush, and which set collar may be affixed to the frame tube by means of a screw with an outside thread, with the screw having a sufficient length that, after the set collar has been fixed on the frame tube, the bush can still be bolted onto ~~at~~the protruding portion of the screw.

4. (Currently Amended) The handrail (18) as recited by claim ~~1, 2, or 3,~~ characterized in that the handlebar (22) is a tube with a round cross section.

5. (Currently Amended) The handrail (18) as recited by ~~one of claims 1 to 4,~~ characterized in that the handlebar (22) may be inserted into the bush (20) and fixed in place with a locking bolt (30).

6. (Currently Amended) The handrail (18) as recited by ~~one of claims 1 to 4,~~ characterized in that the handlebar (22) may be inserted into the bush (20) and fixed in place by means of a support spring (34).

7. (Currently Amended) A tarpaulin (12) for a boat (10), having a tarpaulin cloth

and a handrail attached to the tarpaulin, the handrail as recited by ~~one of claims 1 to 14~~.

8. (Original) The tarpaulin (12) as recited by claim 7, characterized in that the tarpaulin (12) has a tarpaulin frame (16) over which the tarpaulin cloth is stretched and to which the handrail (18) is attached.

9. (Currently amended) A bush (20) that has a fastening device for mounting the bush on a boat tarpaulin (12), to which bush (20) a handrail as recited by ~~one of claim 1s 1 to 6 may is~~ be attached.

10. (Currently Amended) The bush (20) as recited by claim 9, characterized in that the bush (20) has a screw thread (26) that is integral to the bush and a screw nut that is complementary thereto with which the bush ~~may be~~ is fixed into place.

11. (Currently Amended) The bush (20) as recited by claim 9, characterized in that the bush has a fastening arm (24) in which a bore with an inside thread (32) is provided and the bush (20) further includes a complementary screw that ~~may be~~ is screwed into the inside thread in order to fix the bush into place.